

set of young men; they went through a great deal of fatigue without the slightest murmur, were always prompt and willing to obey orders, and had occasion presented, I feel perfectly assured, they would most willingly have opposed any force of the rioters that might have been brought against them. Whilst with the detachment, I heard but one sentiment uttered—an anxious wish to punish the violators of the laws of their insulted country. In my opinion they deserve well of the Rail Road Company, and of the State, as I am perfectly satisfied, had it not been for their prompt and manly conduct much blood would have been shed, and property to a large amount destroyed.

Previous to the arrival of the troops from Baltimore, I had visited the different sections along the Rail Road and had found them tho' in a great state of excitement, willing to submit to the Civil and Military authority, without any hesitation, but all begging to be protected from their opponents, and apprehending a renewal of the riots and murders, unless guards were left at the different stations.

Major Finley, commanding the detachment of troops from Baltimore, reported to me at 5 o'clock P. M. on the 17th, and stationed agreeably to orders, a guard at the 8th sec. 1st div. to relieve the small detachment I had left there in the morning, and moved the remainder of his command to the 8th sec. 2d div. where an attack was apprehended that night. On the 18th, early in the morning, Major Finley withdrew his command from the different stations without apprising me of his intentions, and marched his detachment to Waterloo, on his way to Baltimore with 38 prisoners, which he had made. Having received information in writing from the agents of the Company, at the different stations along the line, that if the troops were then withdrawn, that an attack would certainly again take place by the hostile parties, as they were much excited by their friends being taken, I issued the order marked No 2 to Major Finley, herewith sent, to station guards at the places therein designated—which order Major Finley reported to me as having been complied with, but in a subsequent report, a copy of which is herewith forwarded, he states that Captain Hickman's company had disobeyed his written orders, and in opposition to the remonstrances of the officers, returned to Baltimore—accompanied by their officers.

Major Finley's detachment was relieved on the 19th by a detachment from the Light Brigade from Baltimore under the command of Lt. Col. Campbell, who were stationed at the most riotous places on the Rail Road.